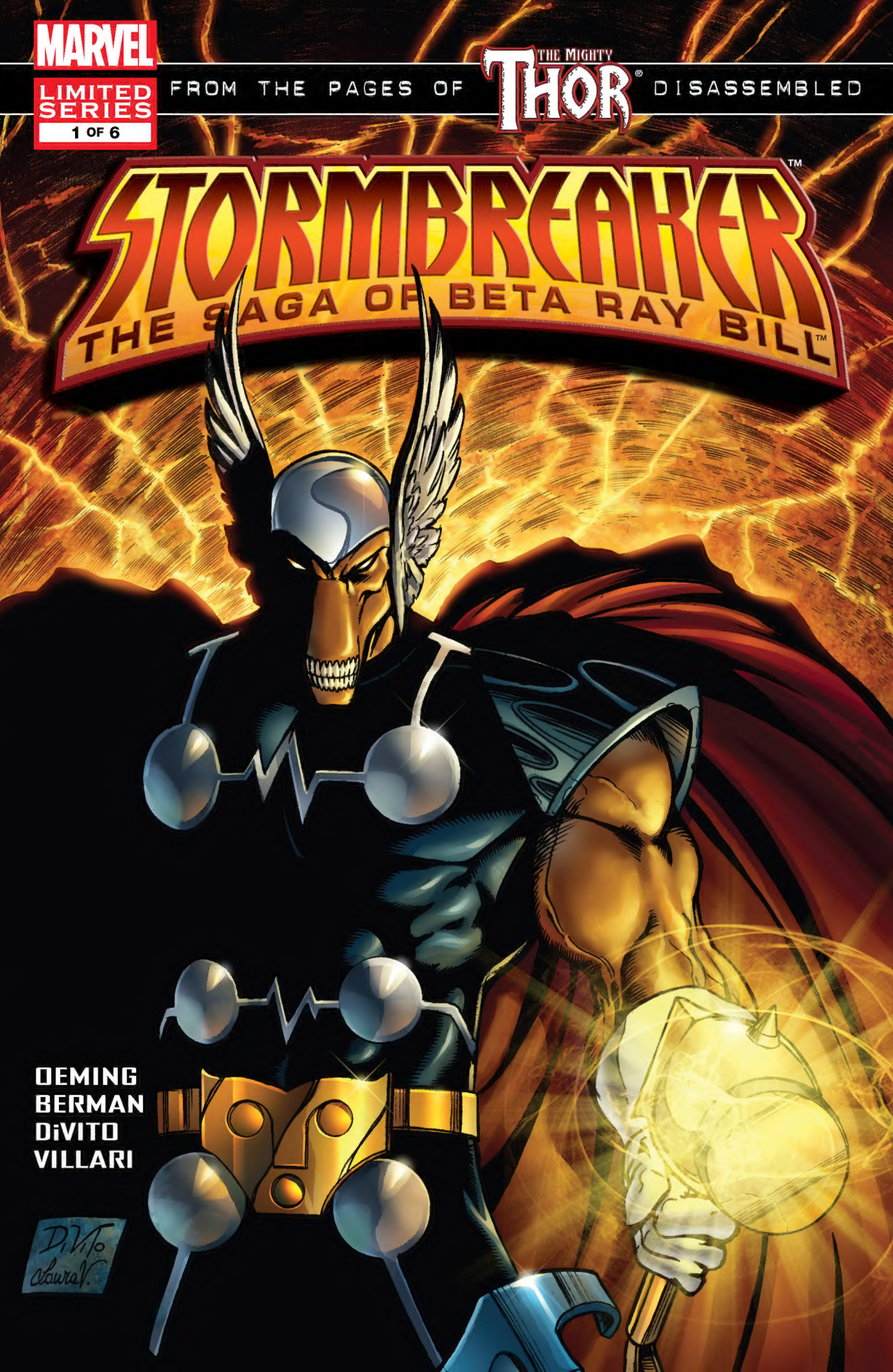
MARVEL
LIMITED SERIES
1 OF 6
FROM THE PAGES OF THE MIGHTY THOR® DISASSEMBLED
STORMBREAKER™
THE SAGA OF BETA RAY BILL™
OEMING
BERMAN
DiVITO
VILLARI

the planet new korbin.
chamber of the great council.
WE GATHER NOW, WARRIORS AND PRIESTS, WE WHO HAVE BEEN TESTED BY THE GODS AND CHASED BY DEMONS!
WE WHOSE HOME PLANET WAS CRUSHED BY THE DOGS OF HELL. WE WHO HAVE SEARCHED FOR A NEW HOME FOR GENERATIONS.
WE WHO BUILT OUR OWN SAVIOR TO FULFILL THE PROPHECY. WE WHO ESCAPED THE CAULDRON AND THE AXI-TURN. WE GATHER NOW IN COUNCIL.
WE MASTERED THE ART OF MERGING SOULS WITH MACHINES, AND FROM THAT TIME CAME OUR SAVIOR, OUR PROTECTOR, BETA RAY BILL!
IT WAS BILL WHO FOUND US A HOME AND DEFEATED OUR ENEMIES. HE FULFILLED THE PROPHECY. NOW BILL HAS MOVED ON AND SO MUST WE!
I AGREE, WE NEED A CHAMPION, BUT I SAY BETA RAY BILL HAS BECOME TOO POWERFUL!
OUR PEOPLE LOOK TO HIM FOR LEADERSHIP INSTEAD OF TO US OR THE GODS. HE HAS USURPED THE POWER OF THE PRIESTHOOD AND OF THE COUNCIL!
NOW OUR SCIENTISTS TELL US WE FACE ANOTHER TRIAL. ASHTA, THE FALLEN GOD, THE WORLD RAVAGER, HE WHO SMITES ENTIRE REALMS, THREATENS OUR ADOPTED HOME, WHERE WE HAVE LIVED FOR SUCH A SHORT TIME. FROM DEEPEST SPACE HE COMES, RELENTLESS AND UNSTOPPABLE, TO PUNISH US FOR OUR BLASPHEMY!
WE NEED A SAVIOR NOW. OUR GREATEST PERIL IS AT HAND!

BEFORE BETA RAY BILL, THE SHEO-'RE CREATED THE FIRST, BEST HOPE FOR OUR PEOPLE, THE BIO-MACHINE CALLED ALPHA RAY. BUT WITHOUT A SOUL, IT FAILED UNDER ITS OWN POWER. SO THE SHEO-'RE COMBINED SOUL AND MACHINE, AND BETA RAY BILL AROSE AS OUR CHAMPION.
BUT THEY DID NOT DESTROY ALPHA. THEY SUBDUED IT AND SET ITS BODY INTO THE FIRST META-ORB, WHICH EVEN TO THIS DAY, HAS PRESERVED IT.
NOW IS ALPHA RAY'S TIME. BETA RAY BILL IS HIS OWN BEING NOW. HE HAS TURNED HIS ATTENTION FROM US AND LOOKS TO HIS NEW GODS--BUT ALPHA RAY WOULD BE COMPLETELY UNDER OUR CONTROL.
WHAT? ALPHA WAS UNSTABLE, BOTH ITS BIO-TECH BODY AND ITS MIND. THE TESTS BROKE HIM. EVEN IF ITS FORM WERE TO BECOME STABLE AGAIN, ITS MIND IS--
ROGOTTA, EVER SINCE YOU BECAME HEAD PRIEST, YOU HAVE CHANGED. YOU USED TO BE ONE OF OUR GREATEST GENERALS. NOW, YOU SPEND SO MUCH TIME COMMUNING WITH THE ANCESTORS...
GENERAL, YOU MILITARY HAVE NO SENSE OF HISTORY. THE ANCESTORS ARE OUR GUIDING LIGHT, THEY--
THE ANCESTORS ARE PUSHING YOU TOWARD AVARICE! YOU SEEK GLORY FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR PRIESTS.
NO, I SEEK GLORY ONLY FOR OUR PEOPLE!
BUT AT WHAT EXPENSE? YOU WOULD REPLACE BETA RAY BILL WITH AN AUTOMATON?
YES! IF WE CAN CONTROL IT, YES! WE NEED A CHAMPION WHOSE ALLEGIANCE IS UNIMPEACHABLE!
BETA RAY BILL HAS SWORN HIS ALLEGIANCE TO THOSE ASGARDIANS OF HIS. HE EVEN CARRIES AROUND THAT HAMMER. WHAT DOES HE CALL IT--STORMBREAKER? IT IS AN INSULT, IT IS A SYMBOL OF HIS REBELLION!
WHAT ARE YOU IMPLYING, ROGOTTA?

HE HAS SWORN AN OATH TO THOSE ALIENS WHO DARE CALL THEMSELVES *GODS!* HE EVEN CALLS ONE OF THEM, *THOR*, HIS OATH-BROTHER! HE CARRIES STORMBREAKER, A WEAPON HE TELLS US IS ACTUALLY *POWERED* BY A DIVINE BLESSING FROM THOSE FALSE GODS!
NONE OF US HAVE EVER EVEN MET THESE ASGARDIANS. HOW CAN WE POSSIBLY PUT ALL OUR TRUST IN BETA RAY BILL WHEN HE HAS SWORN OATHS TO ALIENS-- FALSE GODS-- AND--AND CARRIES THEIR POWER IN HIS HANDS? IT'S BLASPHEMY!
HOLD... UNDERSTOOD.
ASHTA IS MOVING MUCH FASTER THAN WE EXPECTED. EVERY SHIP THAT ATTEMPTS TO MAKE CONTACT IS DESTROYED! THIS MEETING IS OVER! WAR IS UPON US!
WAIT! GENERAL, ALPHA RAY IS OUR BEST HOPE! HIS MIND IS OURS! *OURS!* HE WILL NOT DENY US!
HE IS OUR PERFECT SOLDIER, A TRUE CHAMPION WHO WILL SERVE THE PEOPLE. HE WILL FIGHT FOR US TO THE DEATH, AND NOT FORSAKE US FOR OTHERS!
BATTLE STATIONS! BATTLE STATIONS!
WHERE IS YOUR BETA RAY BILL, *"YOUR SAVIOR"*? WHERE IS YOUR GREAT CHAMPION NOW?

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ASGARD.
the final days
of RAGNAROK.

THE BATTLE IS NOT LOST! WE SHALL PREVAIL, FOR WE ARE THE WARRIORS OF ASGARD AND NONE CAN STAND BEFORE OUR MIGHT!

STORMBREAKER
the saga of BETA RAY BILL

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RRAAAAAGH!!
IS THIS ALL YOU HAVE?! IS THIS ALL?!
YOU DO YOUR BROTHERS PROUD, VOLSTAGG--MAY THE THREE BE ONE AGAIN!
AGH! AND I SHALL FOLLOW...
LADY SIF!
BETA RAY BILL, MY FRIEND AND OATH-BROTHER!
THOR! WHAT IS HAPPENING?
IT IS THE END OF MY PEOPLE. I CANNOT ALLOW YOU TO DIE WITH US, DESPITE YOUR OATH.
NO! LET ME FIGHT! LET ME STAY!
GO BACK TO YOUR PEOPLE, BILL. WITHOUT YOU AND MY FRIENDS ON MIDGARD, THERE WOULD BE NO ONE TO REMEMBER US, NO ONE TO TELL TALES OF OUR DEEDS.
GO WITH MY LOVE AND BLESSING. GO NOW AND HONOR US WITH MEMORY.
BUT...
YES...I...I DON'T LIKE IT, BUT I UNDERSTAND.

KORBINITE FLAGSHIP.
DEEP SPACE.
ASHTA'S SHIP IS IMMENSE, MUCH LARGER THAN WE EVER THOUGHT...
BLUE SQUADRON, ENGAGE!
THAT DID IT, WE'VE SLOWED IT DOWN! WE CAN STOP IT.
GENERAL...
YES, WHAT?
SIR, THEY'VE ALL BEEN DESTROYED.
WHAT? WHO?
BLUE SQUADRON.
THE...THE WHOLE SQUADRON... DESTROYED?
YES, SIR.
MY GOD...
GENERAL, WE MUST DO IT, WE HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE.
BUT THE FLEET...
THE FLEET HAS BEEN DECIMATED, AND...
BUT, BETA RAY BILL...
BETA RAY IS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND. WE HAVE TO REACTIVATE ALPHA RAY, THERE IS NO OTHER OPTION.
BUT, BUT IT'S NOT STABLE-- BUT...YES, YES, YOU ARE RIGHT. WE MUST, GODS HELP US, WE MUST.
ACTIVATE THE META-ORB.

I WON'T BELIEVE THE GODS OF ASGARD ARE DEAD. AND SIF! I...I NEED HER TO LIVE. I CAN'T BEAR BEING TORN FROM HER, SEEING HER FALL--
THOR MUST HAVE A PLAN. I MUST TRUST HIS WORD. I WILL SEE HOW MY PEOPLE FARE, AND THEN I'LL RETURN TO ASGARD.
WHAT IS THIS?
SIGNS OF BATTLE!
TRAVELING THROUGH THESE VAST DISTANCES OF SPACE MAY SEEM INSTANTANEOUS, BUT TIME IS NOT CONSISTENT. I MAY HAVE BEEN AWAY LONGER THAN I THOUGHT, OR...
NO!

THE GODS BLESS ME. I THOUGHT THE STORIES WERE ONLY LEGENDS. IT IS THE FALLEN GOD, THE WORLD RAVAGER...

HOW CAN AN EVIL SO GREAT EXIST?

WHY DOES IT THREATEN MY PEOPLE? I, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, EVEN NOW... THIS CAN'T BE!

ALPHA RAY, YOU ARE OUR LAST HOPE. MAY THE GODS GUIDE YOU AGAINST THIS THING, BE IT ASHTA OR NOT.
I DO AS COMMANDED.
GO FULFILL YOUR DESTINY.
SIR!
WHAT IS IT?
IT'S BETA RAY BILL, HE'S BACK!
IT CAN'T BE! NOT NOW.
THANK THE GODS, WE ARE SAVED!
THE FLEET IS IN RUINS, AND WHAT OF MY PEOPLE? WHAT HAVE I DONE?
NO! THIS IS NO GOD, OR ANY OTHER SUCH BEING. I HAVE CLASHED WITH GODS...

...AND I KNOW THEIR STEEL! THIS IS SOMETHING ELSE! SOMETHING--
AGGH!
FOOOM!
WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
YOUR TIME IS OVER! I WILL REPLACE YOU.
DON'T BE FOOLISH! I SEE YOU ARE A KORBINITE--HELP ME DESTROY THAT THING! TOGETHER WE WILL BE ABLE TO--
NO! ONCE YOU ARE GONE, I WILL DESTROY IT MYSELF! IT IS THE WILL OF THE GODS!
WHAT IS IT DOING? PRIEST, IT IS ATTACKING BETA RAY BILL. STOP IT NOW!
IT CANNOT BE STOPPED.
SIR, THESE READINGS FROM ALPHA RAY...IT'S OVERHEATING ALREADY.
PRIEST? I THOUGHT YOU SAID IT WOULD BE COMPLETELY UNDER OUR CONTROL. WHAT HAPPENED?
IT *IS* UNDER *OUR* CONTROL.
DESTROY IT!
NO.
SHUT IT DOWN!
NO, DON'T YOU SEE? BETA RAY BILL IS A THREAT TO ALL OF US--HE IS TURNING OUR PEOPLE AGAINST THE GODS!

"WHAT? YOU--YOU PLANNED THIS?"
"YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, THE PEOPLE HAVE EVEN BEGUN TO WORSHIP HIS HAMMER, STORMBREAKER--I'VE SEEN IT.
"THEY WEAR IMAGES OF IT LIKE A CHARM TO WARD OFF EVIL! HE MUST BE ELIMINATED."
"YOU, YOU! SECURITY, ARREST HIM!"
FFZZZAAAK!
THOOOOM!
BY THE GODS! THAT BLAST--
THIS CAN'T BE.
BRACE YOURSELVES. WE ARE ALL GOING TO DIE. DO YOU HAVE A PRAYER FOR THAT, PRIEST?
AAAAGH!

UHHHH... GAH...NO... NO!
NNNNNNNNRRR--
RRRRRRRAAAAAAA!
RAAAAAAAAAAAAA!

ALL SHIPS--I REPEAT, ALL SHIPS--RETREAT! ALL IS LOST--SAVE YOURSELVES! MAY THE GODS BE WITH YOU AND HAVE MERCY ON YOUR SOULS.
GODS ABOVE, HEAR OUR PRAYERS! HOW COULD THIS HAVE HAPPENED? OUR PLAN WAS PERFECT.
DAMN YOU, PRIEST...
FZZZZZZ
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, I DID THIS FOR THE GOOD OF OUR PEOPLE! I...
ZZZZFT
MAY THE GODS HAVE MERCY ON YOUR SOUL. MAY THEY SAVE OUR PEOPLE FROM THIS ASHTA...AND FROM OURSELVES.

THIS CREATURE...IT IS NOT ASHTA, THE FALLEN GOD FROM OUR LEGENDS...I RECOGNIZE IT, I KNOW WHAT IT IS!
MEMORIES FROM THE ODINPOWER WITHIN STORMBREAKER... SPEAK TO ME...
THOR AND THE HUMANS CALL IT GALACTUS, BUT I UNDERSTAND IT APPEARS UNIQUELY TO THOSE IT ATTACKS--IT HAS TAKEN THE FORM OF THE FALLEN GOD, ASHTA!
ODIN, FATHER OF MY OATH-BROTHER, I DO NOT BELIEVE YOU ARE TRULY GONE. AT LEAST YOUR BLESSINGS ARE WITHIN STORMBREAKER! BE WITH ME NOW, AND GUIDE MY HAND!
GAAH!!
KA-BOOM!!

YES! YES! HE DID IT!
THANK THE GODS, BETA RAY BILL HAS SAVED US AGAIN! FROM THE VERY CLUTCHES OF ASHTA!
WAIT...
NO...NO... WE ARE DOOMED!
RRRR... I...
I...WILL NOT...FAIL! YOU ARE NO GOD! YOU WILL FALL BEFORE ME!!!!
STARDUST.

YES, MY LORD. WHAT IS THY BIDDING?
DESTROY THIS SMALL ANIMAL, MY HERALD.
YES, MY LORD.
I AM STARDUST, AND I WILL SCATTER YOUR ATOMS TO THE COSMIC WINDS. PREPARE YOURSELF, KORBINITE.
I CAN BUY THEM TIME. MY PEOPLE, WHAT'S LEFT OF THEM, ARE NOMADS ONCE AGAIN.
IF MY BLOOD SHOULD PAINT THE COSMIC DESERT OF SPACE, THEN SO BE IT.
I ACCEPT YOUR OFFER. BUT KNOW THIS: PUT ME AT PEACE, OR THERE WILL BE NO END TO MY VENGEANCE!

KATHOOM!

THE ANOMALY SEEMS TO BE FOCUSED ON THE REMAINS OF THE PLANET. HELMSMAN, WHEN WILL WE BE OUT OF RANGE?
I DON'T KNOW, SIR! WE DON'T KNOW WHAT ITS RANGE IS--BUT THE CONTINGENCY PLAN IS UNDERWAY AND SUCCESSFULLY OUT OF THE SYSTEM!
IF WE ARE NOT TO SURVIVE, I CAN ONLY HOPE THAT THE SPIRITS OF THE HIGH PRIESTS WILL BE FOUND AND REVIVED BY SOME BENIGN RACE! MAY THE GODS BE WITH YOU!
IT'S TOO LATE! WE'RE CAUGHT IN ITS GRASP!

NEXT ISSUE:
SKUTTLEBUTT
AND THE
CONTINGENCY
PLAN!